

Criteria, Review, and Approach Document for the Assessment of Operational Readiness of Vital Safety Systems (VSS)

Site: LLNL

Facility: Plutonium Facility - Building 332

System: Glove Box Exhaust System

System Classification: Safety Class

System Safety Function: The glovebox exhaust system (GBES) ensures worker safety and prevents radioactive release to the environment and the public. It also provides continuous/intermittent air or inert gas flow from potentially contaminated areas (occupied rooms) into contaminated areas (gloveboxes). This is the primary means of maintaining negative pressure inside the glovebox to protect workers from contaminated gases. The GBES confines contaminated gases within the ductwork and HEPA plenum and directs contaminated gases through the HEPA filters before releasing the filtered gases into the environment. The GBES is categorized as a Safety Class System in Chapter 4 of Building 332 SAR.

OBJECTIVE

VSS-1

This vital safety system is operational and personnel and processes are in place that ensure its continued operational readiness.

Criteria and Discussion of Results

VSS 1.1 VSS safety functions are defined and understood by responsible line 1 managers, and supporting information/documentation is available and adequate. System testing is adequate to ensure operability. (See Review Approach items 1, 2, 3 and 7.)

Discussion of Results – (List information/documentation that was unavailable or inadequate. Indicate whether the criterion was met.)

Answer VSS 1.1

The VSS safety functions are defined in the Building 332 SAR. The functional requirements for the VSS are defined in the Building 332 TSR.

Line Managers are responsible for understanding the VSS safety functions. System responsible individuals are trained and tested to ensure their understanding of the safety functions.

Building 332 Facility Safety Plans, Facility Operating Procedures, Operational Safety Plans, and Systems Drawings are available to provide supporting information and documentation on this VSS.

B332 SRPs and ACPs ensure operability of this vital safety system. In addition, daily inspections are used to ensure the operability of the VSS each working day.

The criteria within question VSS 1.1 were met.

VSS 1.2 The backlog for surveillance's, tests, inspections, maintenance, repair, upgrades, or other work on the system is managed and kept to an appropriate minimum. (See Review Approach item 6.)

Discussion of Results – (Provide a discussion indicating whether the criterion was met.)

Answer VSS 1.2

There is no backlog for the GBES with regard to preventive maintenance, corrective maintenance, surveillance, tests, and inspections nor are there any corrective actions. All final stage HEPA's were changed out in 1999. Work is under way to upgrade some GBES ducting and replace the box filters with steel HEPA filter plenums. This work is part of the Work Smart Standards implementation plan.

The criteria within question VSS 1.2 were met for GBES surveillances, tests, inspections, maintenance, repair, and the upgrade projects. All elements are managed and work delay is kept to an appropriate minimum.

VSS 1.3 Configuration Management and Maintenance programs effectively ensure operational availability of the system. (See Review Approach items 5, 8 and 9.)

Discussion of Results – (Address the maintenance program, document control, identification of system requirements and their bases, change control/work control, and assessments of the system. Indicate whether responsibility for operational readiness of this system is formally assigned.)

Answer VSS 1.3

Building 332 has a work control/design control process that assures work activities are properly requested, reviewed, and authorized before being performed and such work activities are performed in a formal and deliberate manner with emphasis on safety. In addition, ACP-B332-011, *Unreviewed Safety Questions (USQ) Procedure* provides guidance for evaluating proposed activities for potential Unreviewed Safety Questions.

All procedures within the Plutonium Facility are prepared using QOP-B332-001, *Preparation of Controlled Procedures*, and are reviewed, approved, and revised using QOP-B332-002, *Review, Approval and Revision of Unclassified Controlled Documents – Document Change Control Process*. All controlled procedures within the Building 332 are reviewed every three years.

For the past two years, the Work Control Process has been used to control changes to systems in Building 332. This process, which applies to all facility and program modifications, requires engineering design reviews, requires that "as-built" conditions are confirmed prior to beginning work, ensures the design basis is maintained and also is the mechanism for triggering drawing updates. Prior to 1998, less vigorous configuration management existed in Building 332. The facility is gathering drawings and documentation for an archiving initiative.

Building 332 has an effective maintenance program that ensures the operational availability of the GBES. Elements of this program are daily operational inspections, quarterly maintenance conducted by qualified plant engineering personnel, monthly vibration measurements, and annual duct inspections.

The criteria within question VSS 1.3 were met for configuration management and maintenance programs.

VSS 1.4 The system is operable and available to fulfill its safety function when required. (See Review Approach items 4 and 10).

Discussion of Results – (Provide a discussion indicating whether the criterion was met.)

Answer VSS 1.4

The GBES is operable and available to fulfill its safety function when required. In the past three years, the GBES has not failed its test acceptance criteria; nor has it failed in response to facility operating conditions. Other than down time related to preventive maintenance, the GBES has been operable, with full redundancy, 100% of the time.

Support systems for the GBES have also been 100% available for the past three years.

The criteria within question VSS 1.4 were met for system operability.